

#6

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicants : Alfred BUBIK et al.

Group Art Unit: 3725

Appln. No. : 10/019,285

Examiner: Unknown

Filed : April 27, 2001

§ 371 Date : January 2, 2002

For : TWIN WIRE FORMER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.56, 1.97, and

1.98, Applicants hereby submit the following documents for the Examiner's consideration:

Applicants submit herewith a copy of an International Search Report dated November 13, 2001 conducted in PCT/EP 01/04774, of which the above-captioned application is a U.S. National Stage. In particular, the International Examiner cited:

✓ (1) EP 0 933 473, published August 4, 1999, as an "X" category document (i.e., a document that calls into question of the novelty or inventive step when considered alone), being relevant to claims 1, 3, 10-13, 15, 16, 18-20, and 22-24 of the International application; and as an "A" category document (i.e., a document relevant to the technological background of the invention). In particular, the Examiner noted column 6, lines 28-34; claims 2, 3, and

RECEIVED
MAY 29 2002
TC 1700
RECEIVED
MAY 10 2002
COMMERCIAL ROOM

9-11 as being pertinent. For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants submit herewith a copy of U.S. Patent No. 6,267,846 issued July 31, 2001, which is a U.S. Patent family member of the above-cited European document;

✓(2) DE 199 50 805, published April 26, 2001, as a "P" category document (i.e., an intervening document) and as an "X" category document. In particular, the Examiner noted the entire document as being relevant to claims 1-3, 6, 16-18, and 22-24 of the International application;

✓ (3) DE 197 02 575, published July 30, 1998, as an "A" category document. In particular, the Examiner noted the entire document, as being relevant to claims 1-4, 11-14, and 18 of the International application. For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants submit herewith a copy of U.S. Patent No. 6,254,728 issued July 3, 2001, which is a U.S. Patent family member of the above-cited German document;

✓(4) U.S. Patent No. 3,726,758 issued to PARKER et al. on April 10, 1973, as an "A" category document. In particular, the Examiner noted the entire document, as being relevant to claims 1, 3, and 15 of the International application;

✓ (5) FR 2 093 632 published January 28, 1972, as an "A" category document. In particular, the Examiner noted the entire document, as being relevant to claims 1, 2, 4-6, 11, 13, 14, 16, and 19 of the International application.

Applicants would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the following documents

that have been cited in the German Search Report dated October 11, 2000 in German Application No. 100 21 320.0, which is a counterpart of the above-caption application. In particular, the German Examiner cited:

✓ (6) DE 31 17 463, as a “Y” category document (i.e., a document that calls into question the inventive step when considered with another document from this category). In particular, the German Examiner noted Figure 3 as being relevant to claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 14, 16, and 18 of the German application;

✓ (7) DE 32 22 428, as an “X” category document. In particular, the German Examiner noted the entire document as being relevant to claim 1 of the German application; and

✓ (8) U.S. Patent No. 4,925,531, as an “X” category document. In particular, the German Examiner noted the entire document as being relevant to claims 1-19 of the German application.

Applicants would like to bring to the Examiner’s attention the following documents that are cited and/or discussed in the instant application:

(9) DE 198 03 591 is cited in the specification beginning on page 1, line 8 of the instant application;

(10) DE 196 54 325 is cited in the specification beginning on page 11, line 22 of the instant application;

(11) DE 197 44 341 is cited in the specification beginning on page 11, line 23 of the instant application; and

(12) DE 197 33 316 is cited in the specification beginning on page 12, line 14 of the instant application.

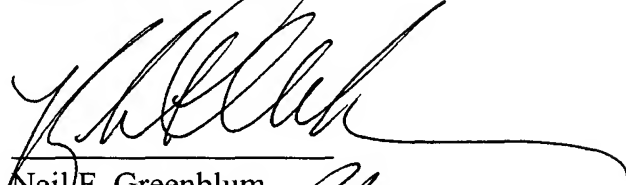
Copies of the above-listed documents (including a copy of the International Search Report, the Annex to the International Search Report, and the German Official Action) are enclosed as is a completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form listing these documents. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

Applicants note that while this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months from the filing date, Applicant has not received a first action on the merits from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed document is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3).

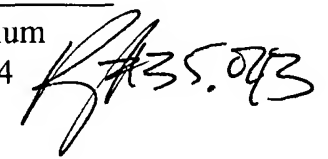
However, if the first action on the merit has been mailed prior to the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees necessary to ensure consideration of the documents cited herein to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Alfred BUBIK et al.



Neil F. Greenblum
Reg. No. 28,394



April 5, 2002
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1941 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191